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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1921.

## A Valuable Compilation

"Because of the readiness of the State Departments and the University of North Carolina to co-operate in the work," there is now available to the people of the State "a handbook of information" which will be prized by every citizen who is interested in our social advancement. North Carolina, by reason of the generous co-operation of the agencies mentioned above, has been favored as the first Southern State treated in the Red Cross series on "Social Laws and Agencies." The volume, recently issued through the Southern Division of the Red Cross, should gain a wide circulation among the people of the State. It is a work representing the most painstaking effort, and covers thoroughly the field of social service in North Carolina. A fairly adequate understanding of its purpose and scope may be gained from the following portion of the preface:

The return of peace extended the work of Red Cross workers to fields other than war-time service. They have become social workers. In this new capacity they have need for a far greater variety of information. To meet this need the Red Cross has decided to issue, so far as may be found expedient, peace-time handbooks of information covering the social resources of the various states, together with a companion volume on national resources which is now being prepared at National Headquarters. For ease in revising, each handbook will be on the loose leaf plan. While the work was inspired in the first place by the necessities of Red Cross workers, it is hoped that it may prove serviceable to other social workers, whether representatives of private organizations or public servants, whose needs are generally so similar. This hope, if realized, will justify the effort put forth.

The present volume on North Carolina is a first fruit of this scheme. It has been possible to issue it thus early because of the readiness of the State Departments, and of the University of North Carolina, to co-operate in the work.

## Selecting Immigrants

The report which the Public Health Service has laid before Congress in connection with the admission of diseased immigrants suggests another excellent argument in favor of largely transferring our selection machinery from Ellis Island to Europe. It is stated in the report that more than nine thousand out of ten thousand immigrants pronounced by the Public Health Service as diseased or physically defective were admitted to the country during the last six months of 1920. The apparent laxity of the immigration authorities is a matter to be remedied by proper legislation or administration, but the weakness of a method which would permit ten thousand Europeans to break up their home connections and assume the burden of a trip to the United States, only to be excluded upon their arrival, may not be overcome except by a substantial rearrangement.

Dr. Rupert Blue, former Surgeon General, has reported from Europe that there is urgent need of precaution against the admission of persons suffering from typhus and other malignant diseases. He is convinced that certain of these diseases will continue for an indefinite period to spread among Europeans. The need of vigilance on the part of our immigration officials is obvious, but we do not believe that protection will be afforded most effectively or most humanely by detention camps, delousing mills and deportation. The whole process would be simplified by the establishment of American immigration bureaus at suitable European points, with provision for the most thorough examination of prospective immigrants, not only as to health, but with respect of whatever qualifications may be set up by the American government. This, we believe, has been proposed by the Public Health Service. It is, in any case, as deserving of careful consideration at Washington as the recent proposal to erect an uncompromising bar against all immigration for a period of two years.

We have never been quite sure in our own minds why the cattle tick decided to make its last stand in Eastern Carolina, but we are beginning to realize that it displayed remarkable generalship in its choice of a battleground.

"White Asked to Call Democrats Together." If he should succeed in doing so, we shall have indisputable proof of his claim to hold his present job just as long as inclination may dictate.

It is reported that King Alfonso of Spain is desirous of entering into closer relationship with the smaller powers of Europe. It wasn't so very long ago that he put up a game effort to convince these same S. P.'s that his country wasn't even in Europe and had nothing whatever to do with European affairs.

## Long Live the Tick!

Great is the tick and the legislature is his prophet. The infested counties retain their holy privilege of being infested. The rest of the state acquiesces in their folly, and a movement at once progressive and essential is frustrated by ignorance and prejudice.

It is a strange legislature with its occasional gleams of liberalism and its typical front of reaction. It will not destroy the department of Public Welfare, although the principle of self-government is involved.

There is occasion for chagrin in the fact that the death blow in the case of the proposed statewide eradication law was dealt by the representatives from the infested counties. The process of reasoning by which these gentlemen arrived at a position of allegiance to the cattle tick is too devious for our slow-moving faculties to follow. The amendments which they proposed indicated a glowing hatred of all ticks except those which happened to be resident within the bounds of their respective counties. They were particularly zealous, it would appear, for eradication legislation for the Western counties in which there are no ticks at all. Generally, they admit that even their own native ticks ought to go sometime, somehow; but they are dead set against dipping (that being the only scientifically approved method of destroying the cattle pest) and stand ready to fight with all means at hand to make sure that not one cow, not one tick, of their "constituency" shall be subjected to the discomforts or indignity of the dipping vat.

The answer is hard to find. Arguments for or against the cattle tick are no longer in place. It is only to sigh a heigh-ho and wonder if, perhaps, by the time another General Assembly convenes, we shall not have a more progressive representation from certain of our Eastern tick-infested counties.

## The South and the Cabinet

Vigorous statements from Senator-elect Harrell of Oklahoma and Representative Siemp, insisting upon Southern representation in the Harding cabinet, tend to confirm the prevalent suspicion that an early inclination on the part of the President-elect has of late been submerged. Aside from any larger consideration, the arguments which Messrs. Harrell, Siemp and many other Southern Republicans have presented in this connection carry a suggestion which should give Mr. Harding pause, as one eminent person would say. The Republican party made substantial gains in the South last November. The Republican leaders in the South realize that the basis of these gains was, and is, ephemeral; that it was largely a negative victory. They are now looking to the national administration to lend them a hand in the task of laying a more substantial foundation. They know that voters, so freshly won, will expect recognition and expect it to come quickly. Their fight, in many respects essentially hopeless, can be given even a faintly hopeful aspect only by the most assiduous courting. No one can fail to sympathize with their frantic efforts to enlist Mr. Harding's aid.

For the Democrats, a policy of hands off appears to be suggested by the situation. It is a family problem of the Republicans, and nothing is to be gained by intervention—at least, not by the interventionists. No Democratic leader will care to be recorded as sponsor for a member of Mr. Harding's cabinet.

## The Women of Dunn

One of the most definite advantages to be derived from the participation of women in public affairs arises from their superior knowledge or appreciation of orderliness and proportion; they know, in other words, when a warehouse occupies a site which should be converted into a public park. The town commissioners of Dunn apparently have been convinced; the Woman's club of that little city has been commissioned to take charge of Lucknow Square, the occupation to follow the removal of the cotton market.

"Mother, it's yours—now, what are you going to do with it?" Thus the Mayor announced to the assembled ladies that their venture had been approved. We believe he will not repeat his inquiry many times. The commissioners had not dispersed, it is related, before one of the women citizens "cornered the chairman of the road commission and made him promise to bring the road forces over and prepare the square for the grass and trees and things the women will plant there." Witnesses, were shown, says the reporter, that the shortest route between two points is a straight line. It was Dunn's first experience "with women taking the lead in municipal affairs." We may venture the belief that it will not be anywhere near the last.

The statement of Judge C. A. Swing, of Louisiana, on lynching is worthy of more serious attention than that which may be suggested by a facetious linking of his name with the subject under discussion. "When you put the stamp of your approval on mob action" he told his grand jury, "you invite the kind of government that has prevailed in Russia and Mexico." There is no more direct invitation to anarchy than that which is extended by ordinarily law-abiding citizens when they take a suspected person out of the jurisdiction of the courts and apply punishment of their own fashioning.

The Senate Naval Committee has reported in advocacy of "an American Navy at least equal to that of any other power." That is to say, following out the principle of the well known "vicious circle," a Navy, eventually, equal to the combined resources of all American tax-payers.

"Tick eradication is all right," said one of the Eastern Carolina solons, "if it is done in a nice way." Now, that's the right spirit. The thing should be accomplished as humanely and decently as possible. What would the gentleman say to chloroform or electrocution?

At a joint session of the Senate and House Wednesday, "solemn pronouncement" was made to the effect that Warren G. Harding is the President-elect. If that doesn't convince him, we'll just have to wait until the sergeant-at-arms sends a detail to fetch him in.

The Republicans are making a mighty flourish with the pruning knife, but they will bear watching when they arrive at the plum tree.

## Contemporary Views

### VIOLATIONS OF PROHIBITION LAW

Albany Herald: Evidently there are not as open and flagrant violations of the prohibition law in Macon as are reported in other Southern cities. Col. Jesse Mercer, prohibition enforcement officer for Georgia, has not had to call attention to conditions in Macon as he did in Savannah, and the Macon News has this to say:

While we are on the subject of the local situation, it is only fair to "give the devil his dues," and to say that while the law is not rigidly enforced in Macon, we are much freer from abuses than several of our sister cities here in Georgia, not to mention the larger cities like New York. Public sentiment has definitely indorsed prohibition, and wants it enforced, and we are glad to know that this fact is receiving the recognition it deserves. Backed by this sentiment, and the eternal vigilance of the public, we hope gradually to see the law even more fully enforced.

### DEPENDABLE FARMS

Atlanta Constitution: In speaking of results from the work which has been done on "the dependable farms" of that section, the Cordele (Ga.) Dispatch says that farm plans carry "plenty of food for the farms, and some to sell."

And the best of it is that Crisp county has "many farmers who have such farming schedules every year, and in hard seasons they make better crops than other farmers because they are there at their posts of duty, turning everything for its worth."

It is pointed out that the farmers of that county "stand together" in this matter of farming "to live at home"—working as one, not only for their own good, but "for the good of those who depend on the farms all around them."

That is what helps most on the road to a general prosperity; and the live-at-home schedule keeps the corncrib and the smokehouse at home.

### DUNN ANYTHING BUT DUN

Greensboro News: Dunn has turned in to rescue a public square that has been used for years as a cotton market, and the women of Dunn intend to plant green things there and make it a beauty-spot.

So much is reported in a short news item from Dunn. We wonder whether that is all there is to report? Dunn is a sprightly, progressive burg; perhaps they have chloroformed the croakers, or run them out of town. Maybe Dunn is so lucky that the correspondent could not have reported any uncomplimentary remarks on the subject, even if he had wished to do so. But if it is like most other towns, he could have made his story three times as long by reporting the sneers and jeers of the moss-backs. We can hear them now, discussing the folly of allowing a bunch of sentimental women to use valuable property for no better use than to make the town pretty. We can hear their doleful predictions of the horrors that will follow petticoat rule. We can hear the anguished howls of some taxpayers about the way the women threaten to crush him under an intolerable burden of public expense. He heroically forbears to mention that he paid the sheriff last year the outrageous sum of 37 cents.

We hope that this isn't true of Dunn; but we know that every attempt to make Greensboro a trifle more presentable must head against a flock of such outbursts. It is a heart-breaking work, that of making a southern town look decent, but after all pretty much anything worth while doing is heart-breaking work.

### THE SENATE ON ITS TOES

The New Republic: So senators go on perfunctorily beating their breasts and trying to work themselves up to a mild fever of excitement against the time of the irrepressible conflict between the legislative and the executive branches. They are reaching out and testing, at least some of them, Mr. Harding's strength and his weakness.

The perilous and devious maneuvers and twistings that mark the projection of Elihu Root and Charles E. Hughes as possible candidates for the post of secretary of state are present visible outcroppings of these under-surface activities. I do not know which of them will be in the cabinet. Maybe neither of them. That would please the Senate. I take the word of that guardian of the inner portals who not long ago said to me: "If either of them is selected his friends ought to present him with a pair of brass knuckles. He will need them."

My own guess is that Mr. Root would get along with the Senate better than Mr. Hughes after the initial period of opposition. Either one of them if nominated will be confirmed. Any secretary of state will find the banister of his life in office full of splinters and the pedestal on which he is elevated sprinkled with broken glass. The dominant group in the Senate, if there is such a thing, has quite made up its mind to conduct the foreign affairs of this country for the next four years.

Also they are going to show Mr. Harding how to take a joke, if their present attitude means anything. Having tasted what they conceive to have been blood and finding it palatable they now talk about making it a regular part of their diet. But as one of the joy-killers remarked the other day, "Breaking a backbone is one thing, but breaking a rubber tube is another."

But I have only to point out here in the index, as a reporter, that the Senate is now in a state of mind to have a bout of catch-as-catch-can with Mr. Harding as soon as he comes on the mat.

### A WISE DECISION

Philadelphia Public Ledger: President Wilson's refusal to intervene in the dispute between the railroad executives and the employes over the abrogation of the wartime labor agreements was wise and timely. The law has created the machinery for the determination of all such questions, and to invite the interference of congress with matters already under consideration by the Railroad Labor Board or the Interstate Commerce Commission would be a confession that this laboriously created machinery is unfit for its purpose before it has even been given a trial.

Representatives of the railway executives welcome the President's decision as tending "to promote the cause of orderly procedure," but their own position would be more secure were they to adopt the same method in the conduct of their own case before the labor board. By their refusal to confer with the representatives of the employes, who are vitally affected by the proposals of the railroad managements, the latter have repudiated the fundamental principle which the board itself was created. If after full and frank conference it proves that no agreement can be reached, then the executives will be in a position to appeal to higher authority, but not until then. Their refusal is akin to the mistaken policy of the labor leaders, a policy of refusing to deal with the popular sympathy which cost the corporation been wholly with the corporation as against the dispirited employes. The railroad executives would be well advised if they should conclude to recede from an untenable position.

# Daily Editorial Digest

## The Unpardonable Debs

President Wilson's curt "denial" written across the recommendation for pardon of Eugene V. Debs has received the "okey" of the majority of the American press. Clemency would have made the mockery of the Springfield, New York Mail (Ind.) believes, thus reflecting a sentiment that seems to be typical. On the other hand, however, there is an emphatic minority which disagrees with the President and the majority of the Springfield Republican (Ind.), and Mr. Wilson's action "inexplicable."

The reasons stated by Mr. Palmer in behalf of executive clemency for Mr. Debs cannot fail to command the approval of a large majority of people and Mr. Wilson's view must be regarded as both ill-considered and deplorable. Mr. Harding, it may be expected, will reverse Mr. Wilson's course in this matter.

Some feel that holding Debs is making a martyr of him, and urging this point the Rock Island Argus (Dem.) states that Debs signed no worse than most of those who, similarly convicted, have since been pardoned; and the paper asserts that "if a referendum were taken in the nation Debs would win his freedom by a large margin." Both the New York Evening World (Dem.) and the Chattanooga News (Ind. Dem.) call for "an abatement of the latter puts it in a more realistic light. It adds, "that in the commission of the offense, Debs believed himself within his constitutional rights." The World remarks: "The President misreads public sentiment if he thinks the majority of the people of the United States are not now for magnanimity rather than repression in the attitude of this powerful government toward a handful of irreconcilables."

It seems to the New York Morning World (Dem.) that Mr. Debs has been in jail long enough to serve as an example and agreeing with its even contemporary, the paper states that "the President might better have commuted his sentence and ended the pretense of martyrdom." In not following this course, the St. Louis Post Dispatch (Ind.) thinks that Mr. Wilson has "forfeited a gracious opportunity" for, while Debs was "justly sentenced," it was a war-time offense, a war-time conviction and a war-time expression of public opinion. "Now that the war is over and other offenders have been released, the time for lenience has come."

Naturally in the papers of radical leanings comment is most bitter. The Minneapolis Star (Ind.) for instance, declares that President Wilson has "assassinated democracy at home" by denying pardon of a man "who has been persecuted for his political faith" and the New York Call (Soe.) refers to the Administration as "a collection of agents of the imperialistic dynasties of the United States" who like the "dealers and exploiters of slaves" will "merit the execration of posterity."

Even in some American papers there are expressions of indignation. The Baltimore Evening Sun (Ind. Dem.) which pleads that "what America needs most now is to forget the war and bring about a co-operation on the part of the people of the country," and it doubts if "the denial of clemency to Debs and a continued agitation of the movement to effect his release" will

serve this end. The Indianapolis News (Ind.) declares that denial came as "a surprise to some" for "it was assumed that Debs had a chance" but it hastens to add that "his offense was serious and there was a strong element of willfulness in it." The Toledo Blade (Ind.) points out that there can be no discrimination between men who fell foul of the army and navy discipline and were punished for it.

A typical sentiment is expressed by the New York Tribune (Rep.) which represents the opposite view of that held by the radical writers. To the Tribune Debs is the "true fanatic" type and "unmeasured and extravagant speech in his second nature." His punishment "must be administered" under "a law vitally concerning the very existence of the nation" as a warning for all time "to insubordinate tongues tempted to imperil the nation in the hour of crisis." To this the Lynchburg News (Dem.) agrees.

"Debs' crime was one that deserved a heavier sentence than he received and Debs not only does not repent of his crime but that is only one of the reasons why he is still in prison." This feature of Debs' "unrepentance" is stressed by the Boston Transcript (Ind. Rep.) and to yield to a drive for such a prisoner's pardon would, it believes, "have important and hurtful consequences in the enforcement of law in the future." The Washington Star (Ind.) feels that the President's act has the "approval of the country" and the Buffalo Commercial (Ind.) thinks "he is to be commended" for it. With these sentiments the Port Huron Times Herald (Ind.) is in accord, as it believes is "every hundred per cent American citizen regardless of party affiliation."

Answering the "war-is-over" plea for Debs, the Newark News (Ind.) grants the fact but adds that "it is altogether another thing to say that so early in the train of the cessation of armed conflict there should be bland forgiveness all round" and the Cleveland Plain Dealer (Ind. Dem.) thinks that Debs "has not yet paid his debt to the nation" and "Americans will generally agree that he is still 'where he belongs.'"

The other argument, that the offense is a political prisoner, is scoffed at by the Elmira Star Gazette (Ind.) which declares "there are no political prisoners in the United States" and conviction of Debs "was not made because of any Debs' political opinions but because of definite, overt acts against the government of the United States."

The Burlington News (Ind. Rep.) appears to be more interested in the recommendation of the Department of Justice than is the President's refusal to accept it.

"The very fact that the Department of Justice should ever think of making such a recommendation," says the News "much less put forward the recommendation" "is a deep rebuke to the present open to suspicion and gives ground for belief that perhaps the agitation of eminent lawyers all over the country for an investigation into the activities of the Department of Justice is not entirely without foundation."

## European News and Views

By WILLIAM IVY  
(European Correspondent of The Star)  
LONDON, Feb. 10.—Few people, perhaps, think of the movies as an international question. Nevertheless, as it is an important point in a recent dispatch, the film is proving to be one of the most powerful agents for the exchange of ideas throughout the world and the fact that America is practically a monopoly in this industry is giving us an unique opportunity for the dissemination of our standards of taste and culture—with all the responsibility that is inherent in the production of a mass product. It is of importance for us to consider what reactions are produced by the American film board. In the English press, for instance, there is a most virulent campaign being waged against it. Why? No doubt a large part of the movie is nationalistic—the papers are endeavoring to create a preference for the domestic product, quite regardless of merit. But on the other hand some of the criticisms are just as when it is complained that American film producers require the exhibitors to make long-term contracts for a definite number of films per year, without giving an opportunity for the exhibitor to assure himself of the quality. Too often the picture is of uneven merit, yet being obliged to accept what is sent him, or at least to pay for it, the exhibitor cannot afford to purchase the films, however better they may be, of other producers.

There is yet another criticism of the American film, not touched on so insistently in England, that is heard in France. The most frequent French reproach is that our movies are unbecomingly suitable for children. It is true, no doubt, that young people are the most enthusiastic film fans in the world and in America, where the public has demanded that the cinema should be kept free of immoral and morbid suggestions. Yet a French writer asks pointedly whether it is not time to consider the production of pictures "fit for a grown person to see." In other words, why should there be a different standard for the movies than exists for the theater or for literature? There is not much chance that either would be able to influence the other with high-flown rhetoric, and probably neither will try it.

A smart business man once remarked that "it is no use trying to drive a bargain with a man who is just as smart as you are, and perhaps somewhat the same thought occurred to Lloyd George when he learned that M. Briand had been picked to head the French government."

We may look forward to a series of compromises between Great Britain and France, in which both premiers will seek to demonstrate to their re-

largely undeveloped. The American film, by reason of its greater technical merit, has an immense initial advantage. The question is whether this advantage can be maintained on the present standard. If not, then European producers will begin to supply the demand for films of greater seriousness and profundity, breaking with their present practice of weakly imitating the American product. And as soon as European producers are strong enough to set their own standards, it is likely that they will drive the American producers out of the market.

From an American point of view this result would not only be regrettable for commercial reasons, it would destroy also our opportunity to influence the thought of the world through this powerful organ of literary expression. In all history there probably never has been such an opportunity offered to a single nation to spread its artistic and cultural ideals.

Lloyd George and Briand have a language in common—the language of "practical politics." It would be worth a good deal to see them in conference talking of the future of the world, that either would be able to influence the other with high-flown rhetoric, and probably neither will try it.

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We may look forward to a series of compromises between Great Britain and France, in which both premiers will seek to demonstrate to their re-

spective parliaments that they had things all their own way. Briand, however, has a strong opinion to reckon with, while Lloyd George has none. It is a pity that who wisely declined to attend the debate watching keenly for opportunities to show that M. Briand had the wool pulled over his eyes by the

Can it be repeated too often that is the lack of any clear policy in Washington that is causing the uncertainty in the government of Europe? Nobody can explain the loss to the world has been a result of a custom which continues President and a Congress in office for four months after their offices have been elected.

There may have been many reasons for Mr. Briand's resignation of the French cabinet, but one of the most important was that M. Leygues had raised the question that he could not answer, that nobody else in his place could have answered. It is a question which might have dodged it out of the power. But what the cabinet asked for was a clear statement of policy, a statement which could be made except at the expense of some political maneuvering along until the new American administration is installed.

If you see a crowd of boys in a park and ask one of them whether he is going to play football, he will likely to answer that he is going to play football. The boy who owns the ball is the international situation in the world. It is America going to play the game and what rules is she going to follow?

There cannot be much doubt that we are going to play football, but the question seems to be whether we are going to play the game with American rules or some game with foreign rules, or to put it another way, whether or not we will insist on playing on our own terms. One thing that makes the situation particularly grave is the fact that the Versailles treaty regarding the figure must be arrived at by May 1st. This year that is only eight weeks after Mr. Harding's inauguration.

No doubt Mr. Harding has not been letting the grass grow under his feet. It may be assumed that when he gets into the White House he will know pretty definitely what he is going to do. Probably Senator McCormick will have told him a good many things that need to be done, and promptly. One of the most interesting questions is what America proposes to do about the loans to the Allies. No government except England has made a provision even for the payment of interest on the loans. What will happen if loans leaves European budgets unbalanced. What will happen if we ask for payment?

## GRAY AND TANGERINE FEATURE MILADY'S HAT

Mrs. Leighton's Opening Shows Chic and Saucy Styles

When Mrs. Harding began to look out her wardrobe in which she will grace the spacious rooms of the mansion, fashion sheets and color pages said that the reigning color of the spring season would be blue for Mrs. Harding's favorite. But she throngs who crowded Mrs. Leighton's charming store yesterday, taking the prerogative of American women to agree with the future first lady of the land. There they saw large, small hats, drooping brims and saucy unexpected ones, but the predominant color of these bonnets were rich, sooty blue. The color that has been one window the gray held court in various shapes and sizes. In the other the tangerines flaunted themselves against the fresh background of navy blue, and in their midst a hat of white and coolest green showed that shades to match were a feature of the opening.

The interior was very attractive decorated with a basket of field flowers (artificial by the way, but looking oh, so natural), and on the center showcase a vase of queerly shaped, reddish blima that could have been made in no other place but China. A delight to the eye was the entire showcase of flowers and fruits. American made and a credit to the country, and a little farther along bolts of unpronounceable cloth, resembling straw and most adaptable to every fashion, made a brilliant blotch of color. The store conveniently placed mirrors chie hats of a shiny substance called cellophane invited the customer to just try the effect. This they did and many went away carefully carrying satisfactory answers to the old question—"Why will women wear spring hats in February?"

## NEGROES HOLD UP AND ROB WHITE MAN HERE

Hold up at the point of a pistol two unidentified negro men and robbed of a gold watch chain and a \$5 gold piece, attached as a charm, was the experience of T. H. Crews, of 2112 Glenn avenue, early yesterday morning. Mr. Crews was going to his work, according to the police, when accosted by the negroes and forced to surrender his property.

The robbed man reported the theft at the store of Schutt Brothers, North and Bladen streets, and the police were summoned to the scene. When they arrived the highwaymen had flown. Mr. Crews is said to be in a state of alarm.

# THINK!

— OF —

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